

## Not Just a Job—A Life Mission

**My journey with Impact Ministries and the Vida Schools started 25 years ago—not as a teacher, but as a Grade 1 student.** It was there that I first heard about God's love, His grace, and His forgiveness. From that time on, God began to work deeply in my life.

Four years after my graduation, I returned to Impact, this time as part of the teaching team. I remember those early days with gratitude and excitement, because I wasn't just starting a job—I was stepping into a life mission. Teaching at a Vida School has been much more than a profession; it has been a response to God's call to impact generations through teaching and example. His plan for my life was far greater than anything I could imagine.

A few years ago, I married a God-fearing woman named Shirley. Together we serve faithfully at the Vida Schools and in one of the Río de Vida churches. We are parents to a beautiful son who has filled our days with joy and new lessons.

Not everything has been easy. Serving in God's Kingdom brings challenges. We've experienced times of need, discouragement, and inner struggles, just like anyone walking by faith. But if we've learned one thing, it's this: God is faithful. His provision, His comfort, and His guidance have never failed.

*"I chose this place, because here we shape hearts, not just minds"*



*Elmer and Shirley both teach at Vida Schools*

Why did I choose to teach at a Vida School? Because this is the place where God shaped me—and now He allows me to shape the lives of others. Vida Schools are an extension of God's Kingdom, a fertile ground to plant values, hope, and faith in the hearts of children. Here, I've grown spiritually and seen the fruit of serving God with love and integrity.

When I first started teaching, I was a young man full of dreams. Today, by God's grace, I have a home, a family, and I continue to teach with passion. I chose this place because here we shape the hearts of children, not just their minds.

Through every challenge, I've grown and learned to trust God more deeply. Teaching here is not just a job, it's part of the purpose He has for my life.

*~ Teacher Elmer*

25 years ago, almost all of our teachers were young and single. Today, over half have families, giving us a new responsibility to provide adequate salaries.

**Teachers are the heartbeat of Impact Ministries in Guatemala.**

They understand intimately the unique challenges students in Guatemala face. They are godly role models from within their own community—missionaries to the children and families in our schools!

**The best way to come alongside our Vida Teachers is to sponsor a class.**

In addition to supplying essential class resources, you're contributing towards a teacher's salary. So that Teacher Elmer and others like him can continue to plant values, hope, and faith in the hearts of children.

**Sponsor a class today:**  
[impact.sponsorsoft.ca](http://impact.sponsorsoft.ca)

**25**  
YEARS OF IMPACT





# Why Do You Choose to Teach at Vida Schools?

"Because at Vida Schools we can find a refuge and a place to carry the love of the Lord. We can teach the children about the good news of God—about how God can work in different ways in their lives."

~ Teacher Gaby

61% of  
Vida teachers  
graduated from  
Vida Schools!



"Because since I was little, I always dreamed of becoming a teacher, and this place was an essential part of my formation. I had the opportunity to grow in an environment full of values, learning, and love. Today, it fills me with joy to be able to give back a little of what I received by working in the place where I studied. It is an honour to be part of the team that shapes new generations, right where my own journey began."

~ Teacher Alejandra



Our longest-serving  
teacher has been  
teaching for 18 years!

There are now  
over 2000 students  
attending Vida  
Schools!

Teacher shortages in  
Guatemala are putting pressure on  
Vida Schools. At the beginning of the  
year, we saw 16 teachers leave for  
opportunities offering better  
salaries and benefits.

"Because I have witnessed how God has transformed many lives. Today, I see my former little students becoming teachers themselves and serving God as well. It's something truly wonderful! My best decision 15 years ago was to become part of Impact Ministries and serve as a teacher." ~ Teacher Lucy



Teaching at Vida  
Schools this year:  
\* 61 elementary teachers  
\* 27 secondary teachers  
\* 10 principals

There are 86 classes  
in our Vida Schools.  
27 of these classes  
are fully sponsored!



See classes (and their teachers) still waiting for sponsors: [impact.sponsorsoft.ca](http://impact.sponsorsoft.ca)

"Even before graduating as a teacher, I had heard about Vida Schools. I continue to teach at Vida Schools because it is a place that inspires me to grow spiritually and motivates me to help my students grow in the Lord. I chose to be at Vida because everything we do is out of love and service to others."

~ Teacher Neydi





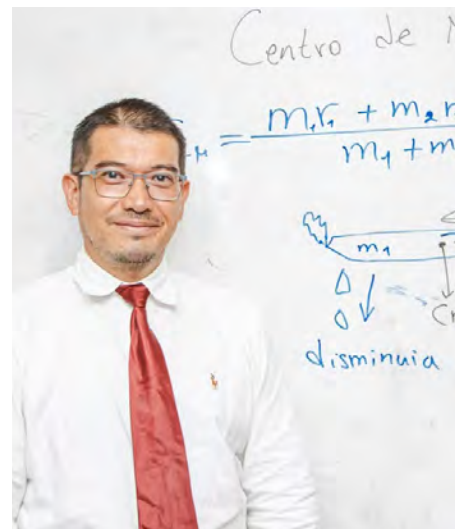
# God's Mathematics at Work

**When Teacher Wilson decided to leave the public school system for a job at Vida Schools, his old coworkers were surprised.** Public schools are known to pay better and to provide benefits such as bonuses and retirement plans. Why would anyone leave such a cushy job for less money?

"The truth is, that is one of the sacrifices, one of the hardest things in coming here," says Teacher Wilson. "I had to say, **I'm going to leave all of that behind. All of it, and say, I'm going to come and serve the Lord.** But it's not about money—it's about being with God. That's what matters most."

That's what moves our teachers; that's what moves Teacher Wilson: "I've been amazed at how God has transformed the lives of my students by using me as His instrument in the school. We are impacting hearts. New generations are coming to accept the Lord. That's what drives us."

As a high school science teacher, Teacher Wilson particularly loves highlighting the hand of God at work: "I'm very passionate about teaching young people not just science, but also how God works *through* science, how God works *through* physics and chemistry."



*Teacher Wilson chose ministry over financial benefit*



*Teacher Wilson loves highlighting the hand of God at work*

Teacher Wilson speaks for himself and other Vida Teachers when he says, "those of us who have stayed here to serve, it's because the Lord takes the little we receive and multiplies it in a supernatural way. Truly, we can see God's mathematics at work."

Will you be part of multiplying God's blessing on our teachers? When you sponsor a class, you're providing educational materials AND teachers' salaries. So that teachers like Wilson can continue to impact hearts.

## ☒ **Yes, I want to be part of multiplying God's blessing!**

☐ I want to Sponsor a Class \$50/month x \_\_\_\_\_ unit(s) of class sponsorship

☐ Invest in Education today \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make cheques payable to **Impact Ministries Canada**

Name:

Company (if applicable):

Address:

City:

Province:

Postal Code:

Phone:

Email:

☐ Please contact me about how I can leave a legacy through Impact Ministries

Spending of funds is confined to programs and projects approved by Impact Ministries. Should a donor designate a contribution, we will honour that designation, with the understanding that when the need for such a program or project has been met or cannot be completed for any reason as determined by Impact Ministries, the remaining designated gifts will be used where most needed. All gifts are tax deductible. Impact Ministries is committed to protecting your private information. The information you provide will be used to manage your sponsorship and communicate with you about our work. Thank you for your generosity.



**Donate Online**

[impactministries.ca/donate](https://impactministries.ca/donate)



# 25 Years of Impact

This year Impact Ministries has been celebrating 25 Years in Guatemala. God has been so faithful and we hope you'll enjoy these glimpses of what the Lord has done from the year 2000 until today:



Want to see more memories? Flip through 25 Years of Impact:  
[impactministries.ca/25YearsOfImpact](http://impactministries.ca/25YearsOfImpact)

# 25

YEARS OF IMPACT

## 25 Years of Impact through:

- schools
- churches
- medical & dental clinics
- orphan care
- sponsorship
- discipleship
- short-term missions

## Contact Us

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*"Vida Teachers"*

 **IMPACT**  
MINISTRIES